

**IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**PATENT APPLICATION**

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: September 19, 2003

Signature: Lisa L. Thulps

**ASSIGNEE  
NAME:** International Business  
Machines Corporation

**ASSIGNEE  
RESIDENCE:** Armonk, New York

**TITLE:** Methods and Apparatus for Information Hyperchain  
Management for On-Demand Business Collaboration

**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

**SIR:**

Enclosed are the following papers relating to the above-named application for patent:

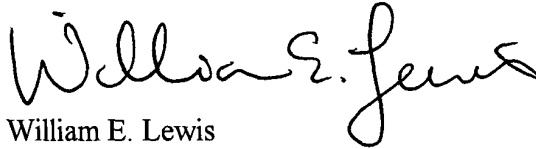
Application - 39 pages of Specification, 7 pages of Claims and 1 page of Abstract  
13 Sheets of informal drawing(s)

CLAIMS AS FILED				
	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
Total Claims	36-20 =	16	x \$18 =	\$288
Independent Claims	6-3 =	3	x \$84 =	\$252
Multiple Dependent Claim(s), if applicable			\$280 =	\$0
Basic Fee				\$750
TOTAL FEE:				\$1290



Please file the application and charge **International Business Machines Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0459** the amount of \$1290, to cover the filing fee. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **Deposit Account No. 09-0459** as required to correct the error. Duplicate copies of this letter are enclosed. Please address all correspondence to: **Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP, 90 Forest Avenue, Locust Valley, New York 11560**. Telephone calls should be made to the undersigned attorney at (516) 759-2946.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William E. Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being the most prominent part.

Date: September 19, 2003

William E. Lewis  
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